

ZOOLOGIST

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, performs duties of considerable difficulty involving research or other professional work in the field of zoology including classification, collection, ecology, and the life history of animals; engages in the investigation and analysis of zoological data collection; performs related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Develops, installs, implements and administers the zoological databases for rare animal studies and the Natural Heritage Program; studies interrelationships, classifications, life histories, habits and life processes in relation to environment, growth, development, population and distribution of various types of animals; studies animals in natural habitat and may collect specimens for laboratory study; may microscopically examine specimens for laboratory study.

Uses chemicals and scientific equipment to carry out experimental studies; prepares collections of preserved specimens on microscope slides for identification of species development; enters data into manual and computer files; transcribes data on animal occurrences and map distribution; attends hearings, training and staff meetings; prepares reports and news releases; assists land management agencies in preservation of endangered species; works to achieve Navajo Nation objectives.

Represents the Navajo Nation in interacting with other governmental and non-governmental agencies on issues involving threatened and endangered animals; organizes and conducts field surveys and/or studies for the Navajo Nation's threatened, endangered or rare animal species; monitors and surveys various endangered species such as the ferruginous hawk, leopard frog, spotted owl, and peregrine falcon populations; provides zoological data that is input into the Natural Heritage database.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of the principles, methods and techniques applied in the investigation, analysis, and solution of zoological problems.

Knowledge of the biological sciences and the parent discipline of the animal sciences.

Knowledge of the scientific principles that underlie the evolution of animals.

Knowledge of the interpretation of the way animals live.

Knowledge of animal taxonomy.

Skill in observing and interpreting animal behavior.

Skill in planning.

Skill in mental synthesis.

Skill in effectively communicating both orally and in writing.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work involves sedentary work in an office environment and field work in the open.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Master's degree in Zoology or a closely related field; and four (4) years professional zoological experience.

THE NAVAJO NATION

Class Code: 3249
Natural Resources and Parks Series
Biological Science Group
Overtime Code: Exempt
Pay Grade: 65

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Depending upon the needs of the Nation, some incumbents may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.